

## Message Text

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67

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

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R 071620Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8452

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

/AMCONSUL OPORTO (POUCH)

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

USMISSION NATO

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 6101

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PO

SUBJ: POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS: EANES CALLS FOR DECENTRALIZATION

REF: (A) LISBON 5998 (DTG 021154Z SEP 76), (B) LISBON A-227

SUMMARY: PRESIDENT EANES CALLED FOR A RETURN OF AUTHORITY TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN IMPORTANT ADDRESSES FOCUSING ON MADEIRA AND THE AZORES. ON LOCAL ELECTIONS, THE COMMUNISTS CALLED FOR A BROAD COALITION OF THE LEFT WHILE THE SOCIALISTS REJECTED ALLIANCES. END SUMMARY

1. EANES ON DECENTRALIZATION: AT THE SEPT 6 SWEARING-IN OF COL LINO MIGUEL AS MINISTER OF THE REPUBLIC FOR MADEIRA, PRESIDENT EANES SAID:

-- ADMINISTRATIVE DECENTRALIZATION AND THE INSTALLATION OF CORRESPONDING LOCAL STRUCTURES IS A CONSTITUTIONAL GOAL, THE PEOPLE'S WISH, AND A POLITICAL IMPERATIVE.

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-- ONLY THE ACCEPTANCE OF REGIONAL POLITICAL VOICES WILL

PERMIT THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT TO APPLY PORTUGAL'S RESOURCES EFFICIENTLY AND EQUITABLY.

-- REGIONAL INSTITUTIONS EXPRESS THE MOST URGENT NEEDS OF THE PEOPLE; IN THIS TIME OF NATIONAL RECONSTRUCTION THESE INSTITUTIONS MUST PRODUCE EFFICIENT AND REALISTIC SOLUTIONS.

2. EANES ON THE AZORES: DURING SEPT 4 VISIT TO THE AZORES FOR THE INAUGURATION OF THE REGIONAL ASSEMBLY, EANES STATED:

-- THE REGIONAL ASSEMBLY HAS THE IMPORTANT TASK OF REVIEWING THE PROVISIONAL STATUTE OF AZOREAN AUTONOMY TO ASSURE THE PROPER INTEGRATION OF THE AZORES IN TO PORTUGAL AND EUROPE.

-- AZOREAN ISOLATION UNDERSCORES THE NEED FOR A PROGRESSIVE RETURN OF FINANCIAL, TECHNICAL, AND ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS IN ORDER TO PERMIT THE EFFECTIVE PARTICIPATION OF CITIZENS IN THE RESOLUTION OF THEIR OWN PROBLEMS.

-- THE GEOGRAPHIC POSITION OF THE AZORES SHOULD BE PUT AT THE SERVICE OF WORLD PEACE AND UNDERSTANDING. AZOREAN INSTABILITY DOES NOT SERVE WORLD PEACE.

3. NO ALLIANCES FOR PS: THE SOCIALIST PARTY NATIONAL SECRETARIAT AND NATIONAL COMMITTEE, MEETING JOINTLY ON SEPT 5, ANNOUNCED THE PS DECISION TO GO IT ALONE IN THE UPCOMING MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS. OTHER ACTIONS INCLUDED:

-- CONGRESS SCHEDULED: THE NEXT PARTY CONGRESS WILL TAKE PLACE IN FIGUEIRA DA FOZ FROM OCT 30 TO NOV 1.

-- INTERSINDICAL RAPPED: THE PS LEADERSHIP CRITICIZED COMMUNIST-DOMINATED INTERSINDICAL FOR PLACING OBSTACLES IN THE PATH OF A TRULY DEMOCRATIC, LABOR UNITY CONGRESS (REF A).

-- PIDE RELEASES CRITICIZED: THE PC OPPOSED THE RELEASE OF FORMER PIDE AGENTS BEFORE THEY WERE JUDGED.

-- RELIEF FOR POOREST SECTORS: THE MEETING CALLED UPON THE GOVERNMENT TO FIND A SOLUTION FOR INCREASES IN COST OF LIVING FOR THE POOREST SECTORS OF SOCIETY.

4. UNITED FRONT FOR PCP: AT A SEPT 4 RALLY IN LISBON, PCP CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBER JAIME SERRA REITERATED THE PCP CALL FOR A "UNITED FRONT OF THE LEFT" IN UPCOMING LOCAL ELECTIONS (REF B). SERRA SAID THE ELECTIONS OFFERED AN "HISTORICAL OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMUNISTS, SOCIALISTS, AND ALL

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DEMOCRATS AND ANTI-FASCISTS" TO GET BEHIND THE EFFORT TO BLOCK A RETURN TO FASCISM. THE PCP ALSO ATTACKED THE SOCIALISTS FOR:

-- ALLEGED PURGES OF THE LEFT IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION.

-- A SOFT POSITION ON COMBATING TERRORISM.

-- SILENCE IN THE FACE OF A "FURIOUS CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE REVOLUTIONARY PROCESS" TARGETED AGAINST THE REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL AND ALL "MILITARY PROGRESSIVES."

5. FONMIN ON GERMAN ASSISTANCE: UPON HIS SEPT 3 RETURN FROM GERMANY, FONMIN MEDEIROS FERREIRA STATED THAT ASSISTANCE PROMISED BY GERMANY COULD BE DECISIVE IN PAVING PORTUGAL'S WAY TOWARD EVENTUAL EEC MEMBERSHIP. THE FONMIN SAID HE WOULD TRAVEL SEPT 22 TO BRUSSELS TO SIGN A COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL AGREEMENT WITH THE EEC; TO THE UN IN LATE SEPT; AND POSSIBLY TO STRASBOURG OCT 5 FOR THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE MEETING.

6. VENEZUELAN PRESIDENT TO VISIT: THE VENEZUELAN AMBASSADOR TOLD PRESS THAT PRESIDENT CARLOS ANDRES PEREZ WILL VISIT LISBON NOV 30.

7. COMMENT: EANES HAS THROWN HIS MORAL SUPPORT BEHIND THE AUTONOMOUS REGIONS OF THE AZORES AND MADEIRA. HIS REMARKS ON DECENTRALIZATION UNDERSCORE THE POINT. CARLUCCI

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